

2003-07 KENTUCKY PLAN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PLAN DEVELOPMENT

**Agenda Item D-3
June 25, 2001**

The Committee on Equal Opportunities is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the general commitments, specific objectives, annual evaluations of institutional progress, and assessing institutional compliance with the requirements of SB 398 [KRS 164.020(18)].

The Kentucky Plan is implemented through administrative regulation. The administrative regulation (13 KAR 2:060) implements KRS 164.020(18). The statutes establish the council's responsibility to approve the offering of new academic programs (KRS 164.020(14)) and also limit (KRS 164.020(18)) an institution's eligibility for new academic programs by the requirement that an institution meet its equal opportunity objectives.

The CEO, as the organization responsible for implementation of the equal opportunities plan, is also expected to take the lead in guiding and overseeing the development of the new postsecondary education equal opportunities plan.

Current Plan and Partnership Agreement with the OCR:

1. The 1997-2002 Kentucky Plan expires December 31, 2002.
2. The Commonwealth's Partnership Agreement with the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, expires December 31, 2002.
3. The OCR will notify Kentucky of its status in satisfying the commitments of the agreement by May 2003. If Kentucky has satisfied its commitments we will be released from OCR oversight. If Kentucky has not satisfied the commitments the agreement with OCR can be extended.

Schedule for developing a new Plan:

1. At the January 2003 council meeting, the CEO may choose to request that the 1997-2002 Kentucky Plan for Equal Opportunities be extended one year to allow action by the OCR and to allow more time to develop the new plan.
2. The new plan, if needed, must then be developed and submitted to the full council for action by January 2004.
3. The CEO must establish guidelines for the revision or development and coordination of the new plan.
4. The CEO must adopt principles to guide the research and development of the new plan, including the schedule of work, input by institutions, the public, and specific interest groups.
5. The CEO must establish the advisory workgroup, made up of institutional representatives and council staff, to provide a forum to identify relevant issues and develop alternative approaches.